

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This issue of the *Bulletin* is much smaller than the past several issues, and indeed is much smaller than we would like it to be. The reason is simple. For sometime now the Society has been living beyond its income in so far as the *Bulletin* is concerned, and now the day of reckoning is at hand. We must retrench by publishing smaller issues until our financial position improves. The alternative is another healthy increase in dues, which we hope to avoid, at least for a while.

The financial position of the Society would be greatly improved if the membership were larger. The interest in birds among the general public has grown tremendously in the last decade, increase in membership in the Wilson Society has not increased proportionally. The Society has always stressed its interest in the serious amateur student of birds and surely there are still many who would enjoy and profit from a membership in the Society. Almost every member must know at least one such serious birder who would be a candidate for membership. If you desire to nominate persons for membership send the names and addresses to the Chairman of the Membership Committee, **Dr. Robert C. Whitmore, Division of Forestry, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV 26506**. A modest goal for 1980 would be a one-third increase in membership.

George A. Hall, *President*

ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWS

THIRD JOINT COS-WOS MEETING IN 1980

The third joint meeting of The Cooper Ornithological Society and The Wilson Ornithological Society will be held in Corpus Christi, Texas, at the La Quinta Motor Inn from 19–23 March 1980. Paper sessions are scheduled to start the morning of 20 March. The announcement of schedule and arrangements, and a call for papers, will be mailed to members of COS, WOS and AOU using the new Ornithological Societies of America mailing labels. This mailing is scheduled for 1 December 1979. The sponsoring organizations of the meeting are Corpus Christi State University and the Coastal Bend Chapter of the National Audubon Society. Chairpersons of the committees on arrangements and on scientific program are, respectively, Brian R. Chapman, Division of Biology, Corpus Christi State University, Corpus Christi, Texas 78412, and Jerome A. Jackson, Department of Zoology, P.O. Drawer Z, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, Mississippi 39762.

XVIII INTERNATIONAL ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS—1982

The XVIII International Ornithological Congress will take place in Moscow, USSR on 16–25 August 1982. Professor Lars von Haartman (Finland) is President and Professor Valery Ilyichev (USSR) is Secretary-General. The program is being planned by an international Scientific Program Committee chaired by Professor J. Aschoff (Germany). Current plans are to have a plenary lecture each morning followed by symposia; hopefully, only three symposia will run concurrently at any time. One mid-congress day will be free. Postcongress excursions are planned to many interesting ornithological localities, such as

Baikal, Samarkand and Bochara. If sufficient interest exists, a group flight will be arranged for North American ornithologists.

Inquires about the congress and requests for application forms should be addressed to:

Professor Valery Ilyichev
Secretary-General
XVIII Congressus Internationalis Ornithologicus
Ringing Centre 117312
Moscow, Fersman Street 13
USSR

Questions and suggestions (including for the program and flight plans) may be sent to:

Dr. Walter Bock
Department of Biological Sciences
Columbia University
New York, New York 10027

AARON M. BAGG STUDENT MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

Student membership awards in The Wilson Ornithological Society are available because of funds generously donated in the memory of Aaron M. Bagg, a former president of the Society. Application forms for the awards to be granted in 1980 may be obtained from John L. Zimmerman, Division of Biology, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas 66506. The deadline for applying is 1 November 1979. A Bagg Student Membership Award provides a 1 year membership in the Wilson Society for successful nominees.

PAUL A. STEWART AWARDS

The Paul A. Stewart Fund for Ornithological Research has been established by donations from Paul A. Stewart. Income from this endowment will be awarded annually to support research in ornithology, especially studies of bird movements based on banding and analyses of recoveries and returns and investigations pertaining to economic ornithology. Several Stewart Awards in the amount of \$200.00 each will be available each year. Stewart Awards will be equally available to students, amateurs and professionals. Interested persons may write to Clait E. Braun, Wildlife Research Center, P.O. Box 2287, Fort Collins, Colorado 80522. Completed applications must be received by 1 Feb. 1980. Final decisions will be made by the Council of The Wilson Ornithological Society at the annual meeting of the Society, 19-23 March 1980.

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